

PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 50038/020003

Certificate of Mailing	
Date of Deposit	January 7, 2002
Label Number: EL790829115US	
I hereby certify under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to: BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.	
Printed name of person mailing correspondence	Guy Beardsley
Signature of person mailing correspondence	

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Vincent P. Stanton, Jr. Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned Examiner: Not yet assigned  
Filed: January 7, 2002 Customer No.: 21559  
Title: PROBES FOR VARIANCE DETECTION

BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, kindly amend the application as follows.

In the claims:

Cancel claims 1-21 and 23-45, without prejudice, and replace claim 22 with the following amended claim that has been re-written in clean form.

22. (Amended) A method for analyzing a test nucleic acid sample to determine whether it contains a sequence variance, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) obtaining a nucleic acid probe that is complementary to a sex chromosome or segment thereof;
- (b) forming a duplex between said test nucleic acid sample and said probe; and
- (c) analyzing whether said duplex contains a nucleotide mismatch, thereby determining whether said test nucleic acid sample contains a sequence variance.